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Message Text

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PAGE 01 NAIROB 06482 250825Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 PM-04 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 DODE-00 MC-02 ACDA-07 AID-05 IGA-02 /045 W
----------250829Z 034557 /12
R 250745Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8468

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 6482

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, KE
SUBJECT: VISIT OF NORTHROP REPRESENTATIVE

REF: (A) STATE 108946, (B) NAIROBI 6118

1. NORTHROP REP DONALD CRANE VISITED EMBASSY MAY 23 AND PRESENTED COST AND DELIVERY TIME ESTIMATES FOR POSSIBLE KENYAN PURCHASE OF 6 ADDITIONAL F-5 AIRCRAFT. HE INDICATED THAT HE HAD PREPARED THESE ESTIMATES TO RESPOND TO EMBASSY EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO USAF OFFICER WHO ATTENDED APRIL PRODUCTION/ SUPPORT REVIEW IN NAIROBI (SEE REF B FOR GENESIS OF THIS INQUIRY). WE THANKED CRANE FOR INFORMATION, TOLD HIM THAT USAF OFFICER CONCERNED HAD PURSUED THIS QUESTION FURTHER THAN WE ANTICIPATED, AND MADE IT CLEAR THAT WE HAD RECEIVED NO FORMAL REQUEST FROM KENYA GOVERNMENT.

2. CRANE MET LATER ON MAY 23 WITH COMMANDER OF KENYA AIR FORCE TO DISCUSS VARIOUS ONGOING BUSINESS. IN COURSE OF THIS MEETING, HE INFORMED KAF COMMANDER THAT NORTHROP ANTICIPATED WHAT HE CALLED A "NEW BASELINE CONFIGURATION" FOR THE F-5E AND F-5F IN ABOUT 1980. THIS WOULD MAKE PLANES DELIVERED IN 1980 AND LATER SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT IN CERTAIN OF THEIR COMPONENTS FROM PLANES KAF HAS ALREADY BOUGHT. CRANE POINTED OUT THAT IF KENYA CONTEMPLATED ACQUIRING ADDITIONAL PLANES, IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE TO ACT WITHIN
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THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS IN ORDER TO GET ONE OF THE CURRENT MODELS.

3. KAF COMMANDER, ACCORDING TO CRANE (EMBOFF NOT PRESENT), SAID KAF HAD ALWAYS HOPED TO HAVE SQUADRON CONSISTING OF 18 PLANES RATHER THAN 12, BUT BECAUSE OF FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS HE WAS NOT CURRENTLY IN A

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POSITION TO MAKE ANY FURTHER COMMITMENTS. HE LEFT THE
IMPRESSION, HOWEVER, THAT HE WAS LOBBYING WITHIN HIS
GOVERNMENT FOR ADDITIONAL PLANES.
LINDSTROM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY AIRCRAFT, TRADE VISITS, AIRCRAFT SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NAIROB06482
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770186-0546
Format: TEL
From: NAIROBI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770520/aaaaaqpr.tel
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 108946, 77 NAIROBI 6118
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2378015
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF NORTHROP REPRESENTATIVE
TAGS: MASS, BTRA, KE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c265498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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US Department of State
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22 May 2009
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